

DOCKET NO.: MSFT-0109/127334.9
Application No.: 09/482,840
Supplemental Response

PATENT

REMARKS

The foregoing Supplemental Amendment and the following Remarks are submitted in response to a series of telephone conversations with the Examiner in connection with the above-identified application in which the undersigned and the Examiner mutually agreed on amendments that would result in the claims and the Application being allowed. Such Supplemental Amendment is submitted after a previous Supplemental Amendment was submitted via facsimile on or about October 28, 2005. As confirmed with the Examiner on November 2, 2005, the previous Supplemental Amendment was not entered by the Examiner for the reason that such previous Supplemental Amendment was considered to be for discussion purposes only.

Claims 106-181 remain pending in the present application. Claims 106, 109, 110, 119-122, 125, 135-140, 149-152, 155, 156, 165-170, and 179-181 remain pending for further prosecution in connection with the present application, all other claims having been withdrawn as not being directed to an elected species. Independent claims 106, 122, 138, 152, and 168 have been amended. Applicants respectfully submit that no new matter has been added to the application by the present Supplemental Amendment.

As amended, independent claim 106 recites a method in combination with a digital rights management (DRM) system operating on a computing device, where the DRM system employs a black box for performing decryption and encryption functions. The method is for obtaining the black box by the DRM system from a black box server.

Independent claim 122 recites subject matter similar to that in independent claim 106, but from the point of view of the DRM system. Independent claim 138 recites subject matter similar to that in independent claim 106, but from the point of view of the

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black box server. Independent claim 152 recites subject matter similar to that in independent claim 122, but in the form of a computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions thereon for performing the method of claim 122. Independent claim 168 recites subject matter similar to that in independent claim 138, but likewise in the form of a computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions thereon for performing the method of claim 138.

In a series of telephone conversations with the Examiner, the most recent of which occurred on November 2, 2005, the undersigned and the Examiner arrived at the claim language as now set forth in amended independent claims 106, 122, 138, 152, and 168, with the understanding that such amended claims should now be allowable. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully solicit allowance of such independent claims.

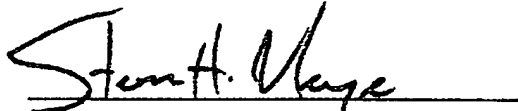
With regard to the dependent claims, Applicants respectfully submit that once all of the independent claims are allowable, so too are the dependent claims allowable, at least by their dependency. Moreover, since such Allowability should extend to the dependent claims that have been withdrawn as not being directed to an elected invention, Applicants respectfully request that such withdrawn claims be rejoined. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully solicit allowance of all dependent claims.

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In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully request a Notice of
Allowability for claim 106-181 in due course.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Steven H. Meyer", is written over a horizontal line.

Steven H. Meyer
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